



Learning Together : Succeeding Together

Friday 14th February 2020

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Head Teacher's Summary

I'm sure I'm not the only person who feels that this half-term has flown by! Christmas is now a distant memory thanks to a busy and energetic 6-weeks which has included the consultation regarding our proposed academisation. I am very grateful to those of you who have taken the time to make such thoughtful contributions.

I would like to publicly thank Mathilde Baret, Chardae-Hope Bennett, Grace Byfield, Tori Darkins, Tyla Du Preez, Laila Egan, Elizabeth Hilling, Evie Martin, Lily Ogston Carter and Lottie Salzman. This wonderful group of Year 7s took it upon themselves to organise a bake sale for their favourite charity, Dogs Trust. Their baking efforts included cakes, pancakes and waffles (all delicious!) and they raised over £200.



As today is Valentine's Day, I would also like to mention Chloe Zimmermann (Year 11), who arranged a brilliant rose delivery service across the school this morning to raise money for World Challenge. A fantastically entrepreneurial approach to fundraising that spread a great deal of joy around the school!

There are too many superb students to mention them all by name here. I did have the opportunity to meet with a larger group of students this morning to give them letters recognising their achievements and I will be repeating that in the future. Well done to all of those students.

Next term, we will begin to focus more on our school values. The four values that we have chosen are: family, ambition, integrity and respect (which just so happen to form the acronym FAIR). Over time these qualities will become a vital part of school life, being incorporated within our rewards system and curriculum.

In the coming months, I am keen to consult widely with staff, students and parents on a number of areas that I plan to reform. This will include the future shape of our curriculum, sex and relationship education, how we use rewards to recognise the achievements of our fantastic students, the house system and uniform. As I have said to the students many times, this is our school and it is important to me that everyone has the opportunity to contribute to our development.

You don't need to wait for a consultation to share your feedback and you can always contact me directly (nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk).

I hope you all have a pleasant half-term.



Nick McSweeney
Headteacher

Drawing with Maths

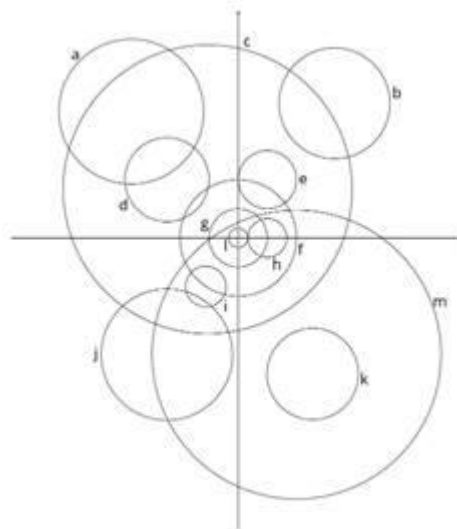
Year 12 Maths had a slightly different lesson when we had to match circle equations to the circles on this diagram.

The task is called 'Teddy Bear,' however a couple of the students took a while to see the teddy. Can you spot it?

We followed this up with an A level exam question from 1953, and it was clear that the teddy task had helped the students in their thinking.

These resources were provided by Cambridge University's Underground Maths project.

Mr Parry
Teacher of Maths



Official 3G Pitch Opening

Reading defender Tom McIntyre recognised the importance of having first class community football facilities as he officially opened a new full-size floodlit third generation (3G) artificial grass pitch (AGP) at The Emmbrook School in Wokingham recently (Wednesday 29 January).

The new pitch was made possible thanks to investment from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation.



After netting a £480,298 grant from the Football Foundation, as well as £350,000 pledged by Wokingham Borough Council, work begun on the site in August 2019. The new facility will enhance the school's P.E. provision and will provide increased sporting opportunities for the wider community.

Local football clubs including the borough council's partners; Wokingham and Emmbrook FC, Ashridge Park FC, and community groups, will all have access to the pitch during evenings and weekends.

It is anticipated that the new pitch will support an additional 75 football teams playing at the site over the next five years. This will contribute to over 1,100 people playing affiliated football. The creation of nine new female teams would also support approximately 150 women and girls playing football at the site.

Cllr Parry Bath, Executive Member for Environment and Leisure at Wokingham Borough Council, said: **"The new 3G pitch is a fantastic addition to our leisure facilities in the borough, which will not only benefit the school but also local sports and the many football teams within the Borough.**

"The new 3G pitch will help meet our Climate Change initiatives by offering local facilities and reduce the number of teams travelling outside the Borough to play football. We are grateful to receive the grant from the Football Foundation, and along with the developer contributions it means we can invest locally in high quality football facilities and support the grassroots sport."

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: **"Grassroots sport plays an important role in communities across the UK, creating opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds. That is why I am delighted that The Emmbrook School has now opened their new all-weather pitch in Wokingham thanks to investment from the Football Foundation.**

"Continuing to improve access to high-quality facilities like this one is a key aim for the Premier League, The FA and the Government. Delivered by the Football Foundation, their funding supports projects for clubs and organisations all over the country and is helping to boost the number of people benefiting from sport through better facilities.

"Grassroots football provides so many benefits for members of the community, not least of which is the opportunity to enjoy themselves. Love for our national game, something that can be found across the country, is an integral part of what drives the Foundation and its Funding Partners to keep increasing the standards and quality of our facilities."

Y10 Netball

Despite the Wokingham league finishing before Christmas, the Year 10 netball team have enjoyed keeping up their fitness and skill levels this term by playing 3 friendlies in as many weeks. They narrowly lost against Waingels 31-23 with Willow Mills earning Player of the Match for her brilliant play making abilities as centre. Kayla McNamara was also outstanding scoring 18 of the 23 goals. The Year 10 team then faced Luckley the following week and beat them 19-15 in what Miss Matthews described as "the best game she's ever seen them play". Jazz Abbot was our top shooter while our Player of the Match, Hollie White, kept Luckley's attackers at bay, intercepting their passes all over the court. Finally the girls were then defeated by Holt last week however some brilliant debut playing positions from Paige Hopkins and Rachel Swindley meant that next season may look a little different on court.



It is great to see the girls so committed to playing netball, even after the season is over and their dedication to representing the Emmbrook is very much appreciated. Hollie White has been a fantastic captain and team manager this year, organising the team week in and week out, despite player injuries, other commitments and school trips.

Miss Matthews

Teacher of PE

Wheeler Programme

A huge congratulations to Erin Prowse, Elliot Cardozo and Daniel Negroni in Year 9. These students have been accepted on to Wellington College's Wheeler Programme. The programme is specifically designed to support ambitious and aspiring students, and they will be spending several days a year at Wellington right up to the end of Year 13. All state secondary schools local to Wellington were invited to ask Year 9 students to apply and there were only 20 places available.



Erin, Elliot and Daniel had to complete an extensive written application last term and then attend an interview (which turned out to be three separate interviews) earlier in January this year. I am very impressed that Year 9 students were able to complete such a rigorous process and proud that our students have taken up such a large proportion of the places. We wish the students success in their future endeavours.

Mr Parry

HA Coordinator

Sporting Update

Cross Country - The Emmbrook had a small but eager group of Year 7 runners who were keen to represent The Emmbrook School. Sadly we had a few last minute drop outs due to illness or injury however the following represented in their races:

Callum Bennett came 67th out of a total of 100 Year 7 boys!
With a time of 13m 18s... a great effort!

Daniel Mountain sadly did not make it to the finish line as he had a nasty pulled hamstring! Probably due to the fact he just come from a football match!



Our two year 7 girls who made it across the line made the day.

Their spirit and determination to finish showed when they crossed the line together, both exhausted, teary eyed and wobbly legged! Out of 120 Year 7 girls across the county they did very well! Results are below:



Jazmine Crawford (95th - 11m 57s)
Sophie Grove (96th - 11m 58s)

Both the girls were fantastic and stuck together throughout the difficult race. It was so heartwarming watching them run down the finishing straight together!

We also had a couple of Year 10 girls who did cross the line and again did a fantastic job at representing the school!

Jazz Abbott came 36th out of 43 with a time of 20min 1sec and Paige Hopkins finished just behind with a valiant effort and an amazing sprint finish coming 39th out of 43 with a time of 20min and 27sec.

Basketball - the school recently played a match against a good Blessed Hugh Faringdon team who were comprised of Year 9 students! We only had Year 7 and 8 students who were available to play. These boys stood up to the grand challenge and did extremely well against an older and more experienced team. The score was 21-12 to Hugh Faringdon however if there were an extra 10 minutes to play I am confident Emmbrook would have taken the win. Our confidence grew in the last two quarters and we were clearly on top in the final 5 minutes scoring 8 points! A little bit of confidence goes a long way!

The students who played were:

Louis Althorp
Marwan Hussein
Charlie Vickers
Bradley Feeney
Miguel Arizabalo-Peralta



Matthew Gaceta
Arvel Gurung
Spike Holdway

Mr Edwards
Teacher of PE

Design and Technology

Since Christmas Year 10 have been completing a mini course work project to design a recycling bin. Intended for 'dry' products only and located in an indoor situation of their choice, the recycling bin must be aimed at young children and encourage them to recycle.

After researching existing products and analysing their materials and features, pupils completed a series of designs and began building their bins. Because the design brief was quite open the variety of ideas and designs was wide, varying in shape, theme and function.



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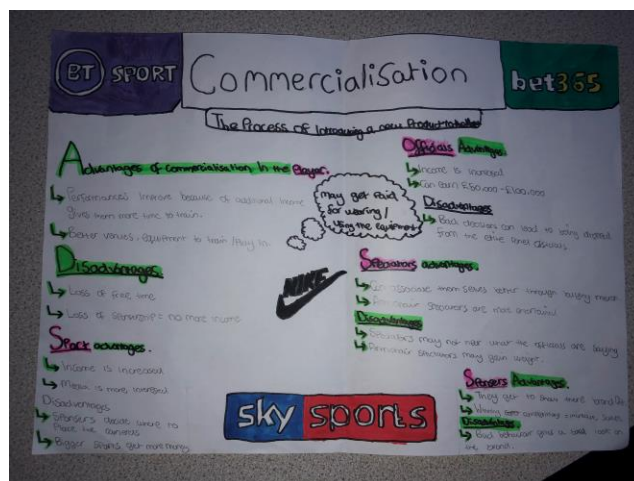
A very positive result from all pupils and confirming that a good well thought-out design is central to a successful project.

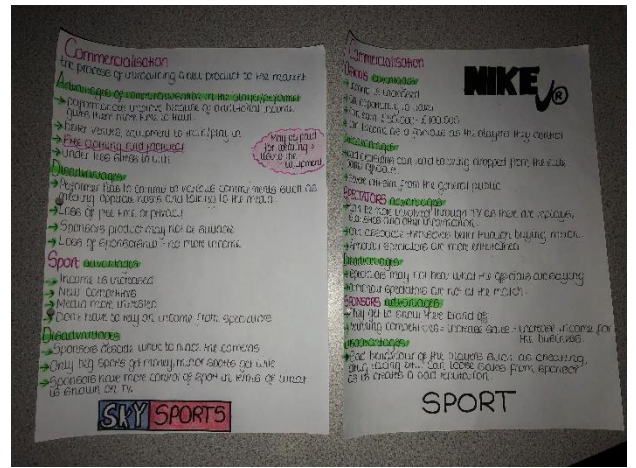
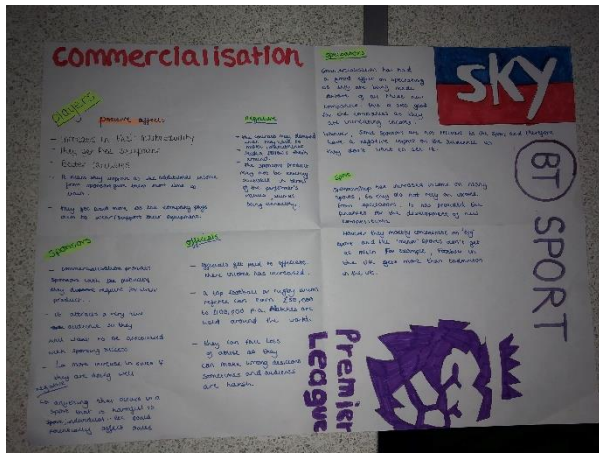
Mr Field
Teacher of Art

Commercialisation in Sport Project

Year 10 GCSE students Cameron Wise, Willow Mills and Jack Worsley blew Miss Matthews away with their fantastic posters on commercialisation in sport. Students have been learning about the negative and positive influence of sponsorship and media on athletes, officials, spectators and sport and produced some brilliant posters detailing this. It was great to see the students artistic side come out drawing logos and brands. Well done 10D GCSE!

Miss Matthews
Teacher of PE





Music News

News from the Music Department

This half term has culminated in a particularly busy week, starting, on Monday, with a film crew visiting the department to photograph and video our Rock Steady bands.



Tuesday saw sound checks and final rehearsals during the day, ready for the Lower School Concert in the evening, attended by a large number of supportive family, friends and Emmbrook staff. There were many wonderful performances, given by our Year 7 and 8 musicians, with great teamwork and support of each other highly in evidence.



Wednesday meant an off-site community concert at the Emmbrook Village Hall where a group of our musicians entertained local Emmbrook residents, reducing some of the audience to tears (for the best of reasons of course!! ... the power of music in action).





If you would like your child to start having singing or instrumental lessons with one of our visiting teachers, please visit the Berkshire Maestros website for more information, and to complete a registration form at www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk Equally, register your child for Rock



Steady sessions if you would like them to learn keyboard, guitar, drum kit and singing within a collaborative band environment with Rock Steady tutor, Michelle Jardim. I am very much looking forward to next half term with lots more music-making and some exciting enrichment opportunities.

Special dates for your diaries:

Thursday 27th February – Wellington College Choral Day
Wednesday 4th March – Trip to 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'
Tuesday 17th March – Senior Chamber Concert (7 pm start)

Mrs Wellman

Curriculum Leader for Business

More Sport!

Miss Taylor's year 8 and 9 class have been on OAA (outdoor adventure activities) this term. They have explored various different activities from finding and labelling different anatomies competing with peers, riddle solving to problem solving and team building activities like the pictures below. It's fair to say they enjoyed themselves, as well as learning valuable lifelong skills such as team work, communicating and leadership.



The year 8 girls Netball team have come to the end of their SWIFT league held at St Crispin's weekly, and have come a very respectful 4th place! The girls have progressed so much throughout the 5 weeks with their knowledge, understanding and skill development and whatever the outcome win, lose or draw they always gave 110%. Well done ladies and keep up the great work!



	Crispin's B	Piggott B	Bulmershe	Maiden Erlegh B	Holt B	Emmbrook	Points	GD	Position
1.Crispins B		5 3-1	1 2-7	1 0-2	1 1-13	1 1-2	9	-18	5th
2.Piggott B	1 1-3		1 0-5	1 0-6	1 0-14	1 0-5	4	-29	6th
3.Bulmershe	5 7-2	5 5-0		5 3-2	1 0-9	5 6-0	21	8	2nd
4.Maiden Erlegh B	5 2-0	5 6-0	1 2-3		1 1-14	5 6-1	17	-1	3rd
5.Holt B	5 13-1	5 14-0	5 9-0	5 14-1		5 15-0	25	63	1st
6. Emmbrook	5 2-1	5 5-0	1 0-6	1 1-6	1 0-15		13	-19	4th

This week the newly formed year 7 Netball team participated in the school games tournament on the 12th of February. The girls were utterly brilliant and progressed so much by the end of the tournament. It was wonderful to see such great effort levels, enjoyment and team work. Likewise, it was also great to have so many different player of the matches. A fantastic effort and Miss Taylor looks forward to the start of the SWIFT league when we get back. POM- Kaiyah, Sophie M, Robin, Zara, Sophie M.



Miss Taylor
Teacher of PE

Important Dates for 2019

24 th March	INSET Day 3
26 th February	Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening (PCE)
4 th March	Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening
11 th March	Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening
25 th March	Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening

Additional details can also be found on our website

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